

## Message Text

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13

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-05 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

RSC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06

PRS-01 OMB-01 /068 W  
----- 037583

R 300455Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1613  
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA  
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON  
CINCPAC

CONFIDENTIAL SINGAPORE 4802

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MARR SN UK  
SUBJ: WITHDRAWAL OF UK FORCES FROM SINGAPORE

REF: SINGAPORE 2624

1. UK DEPUTY HIGH COMMISSIONER WATTS ADVISED CHARGE  
THAT HIS HIGH COMMISSIONER HAS INFORMED PRIME MINISTER  
LEE OF BASIC DECISION IN UK DEFENSE REVIEW CONCERNING FUTURE OF  
BRITISH FORCES IN SINGAPORE. LEE WAS TOLD THAT UK HAD REACHED  
DECISION TO PULL OUT ALL FORCES FROM SINGAPORE SUBJECT TO FUR-  
THER CONSULTATIONS WITH UK ALLIES. HOWEVER, BLOW WAS SOFTENED  
CONSIDERABLY WHEN HIGH COMMISSION INDICATED THAT THE TIMING  
WAS INDEFINITE AND COULD PROBABLY BE STRETCHED OUT OVER LONG  
PERIOD--PERHAPS AS MUCH AS SEVERAL YEARS. WATTS SAID DEFENSE SE-  
CRETARY WOULD MAKE STATEMENT IN PARLIAMENT ON DEFENSE REVIEW  
ON DECEMBER 3 AND THAT THIS STATEMENT WOULD REFLECT DECISION  
ON SINGAPORE AND MANY OTHER DECISIONS. WATTS SAID LEE HAD PRO-  
BABLY ALREADY RECEIVED ADVANCE NEWS OF THIS DECISION THROUGH  
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HIS EXCELLENT CONTACTS WITH THE LABOR PARTY IN LONDON, AND

TOOK THE NEWS WITH CONSIDERABLE EQUANIMITY.

2. WHEN CHARGE ASKED HOW SOON BRITISH LONG-RANGE RECONNAISANCE AIRCRAFT (NIMRODS) WOULD BE WITHDRAWN AND WHEN ANZUK STORES BASIN WOULD REVERT TO SINGAPORE CONTROL, WATTS SAID HE DID NOT KNOW. HOWEVER, HE SAID TIMING ON THESE MATTERS WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY BE INFLUENCED BY US REPRESENTATIONS TO UK.

3. COMMENT: EMBASSY HAS COMMENTED AT SOME LENGTH IN REFTEL ON ADVERSE IMPACT WHICH UK WITHDRAWAL WOULD HAVE ON US INTERESTS IN SINGAPORE. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO REVIEW THESE CONSIDERATIONS IN CONNECTION WITH ANY FURTHER DISCUSSION OF DEFENSE REVIEW WITH UK.

GRANT

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SURVEILLANCE, TROOP REDUCTIONS, OBSERVATION AIRCRAFT  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 30 NOV 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** boyleja  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974SINGAP04802  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740348-0028  
**From:** SINGAPORE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t1974111/aaaaaage.tel  
**Line Count:** 75  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** SINGAPORE 2624  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** boyleja  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 27 JUN 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <27 JUN 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <17 MAR 2003 by boyleja>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
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30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** WITHDRAWAL OF UK FORCES FROM SINGAPORE  
**TAGS:** MARR, SN, UK  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005